

Remarks

Claims 1-8, 17-19, 21-26, 28, 30 and 32 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 5,562,838 (“Wojnarowski”) in view of US patent 6,387,284 (“Hornbeck”).

Claims 9-16 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over 6,539,157 (“Doi”) in view of Hornbeck.

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections because the cited references do not disclose or suggest every element of any pending claim, as the following analysis shows.

Independent claims 1, 17 and 22 each recite at least one metal trace on the surface of the substrate adjacent to the trench, with the capping surface attached to the metal trace. Support for this may be found in the specification at page 6 lines 16-18 and Figs. 3, 4 and 7. None of the cited references disclose or suggest these limitations.

Independent claim 9 recites leaving a space between the bonding material and the substrate during the process. Support for this limitation may be found in the specification at page 8 line 12 (items 82, 84). None of the cited reference disclose or suggest this limitation.

Dependent claim 13, in addition to encompassing the limitations of claim 9, also recites using a reflow operation to bond the bonding material to the substrate. The cited references do not disclose or suggest this limitation, which was not addressed in the previous office action.

Each of the pending dependent claims depends from one of claims 1, 9, 17, and 22, and therefore contains the same limitations not disclosed or suggested by the cited prior art.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and indication of allowance by the Examiner is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, he or she is requested to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number shown below as soon as possible. If any fee insufficiency or overpayment is found, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

Intel Corporation

Date: 9-07-04


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